

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listings of Claims:

1. (Original) A nonvolatile memory device comprising a control circuit and a nonvolatile memory circuit,

wherein said nonvolatile memory circuit includes a storage region for restriction information that restricts access to contents information,

wherein said restriction information includes access time limit information and access time stamp information,

wherein said control circuit performs an access decision operation which decides whether access to said contents information is enabled or disabled, based on first time information which is supplied externally and said restriction information, and updating said access time stamp information based on said first time information,

wherein said control circuit decides that access is disabled in the case where said first time information is later than the access time limit given by the access time limit information or in the case where said first time

information is earlier than the access time stamp given by said access time stamp information, in the case other than these cases, said control circuit decides that the access is enabled, and

wherein said control circuit performs the access decision operation, at least, at the start of access to said contents information and at the end of the access.

2. (Original) A nonvolatile memory device comprising a control circuit and a nonvolatile memory circuit,

wherein said nonvolatile memory circuit includes a storage region for restriction information that restricts access to contents information,

wherein said restriction information includes access time limit information and access time stamp information,

wherein said control circuit performs an access decision operation which decides whether access to said contents information is enabled or disabled, based on first time information which is supplied externally and said restriction information, and updating said access time stamp information based on said first time information,

wherein said control circuit decides that access is disabled in the case where said first time information is

later than the access time limit given by the access time limit information or in the case where said first time information is earlier than the access time stamp given by said access time stamp information, in the case other than these cases, said control circuit decides that the access is enabled, and

wherein said control circuit performs the access decision operation, at least, when operating power supply to the nonvolatile memory device is turned on and when the operating power supply is turned off.

3. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 1,

wherein said nonvolatile memory circuit includes a storage region for said contents information and said nonvolatile memory device allows a plurality of divisions of said contents information to be stored in separate locations and to be accessed discretely, and

wherein, after said access decision operation decides that initial access to one of the divisions is enabled, said access decision operation may be performed each time accessing each of or a given number of the remaining divisions of said contents information.

4. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 3, wherein the divisions of said contents information are accessed in units of sectors.

5. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 3, wherein the access decision operation for access to the divisions of said contents information is programmed such that the access decision operation for access to the second and subsequent divisions of said contents information decides that access is enabled even when the first time information is later than the access time limit given by the access time limit information.

6. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 3, wherein said nonvolatile memory device is used, coupled to an external device capable of outputting said first time information, and said nonvolatile memory device is capable of outputting the divisions of said contents information to said external device.

7. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 3, wherein said nonvolatile memory circuit is a

nonvolatile semiconductor memory and is housed in a certain memory card casing having interface terminals for connection to an external device.

8. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 1, wherein said restriction information is encrypted by said control circuit and stored into said nonvolatile memory circuit.

9. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 8, wherein an encryption key that is used to encrypt said restriction information is attribute information unique to the nonvolatile memory device.

10. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 1, wherein said control circuit is capable of outputting certificate information to the external in order to receive a contents information license including a contents key that is used to decrypt said contents information.

11. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 10, wherein said control circuit receives said contents information license from the external and stores said contents information license into said nonvolatile memory circuit.

12. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 11, wherein said control circuit stores time information that is received with said contents key into said nonvolatile memory circuit as initial information of said access time stamp information.

13. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 1,

wherein said nonvolatile memory circuit comprises a restricted access region and an unrestricted access region,

wherein said restriction information is stored into the restricted access region, and

wherein said contents information is stored into the unrestricted access region.

14. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 13, wherein said control circuit is allowed to write data into said restricted access region only after authentication is accepted from the external.

15. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 14, wherein said restricted access region is to store a contents information license.

16. (Original) The nonvolatile memory device according to claim 14, wherein said control circuit is allowed to read data from said restricted access region only after certificate information given from the external is authenticated.

Claims 17-30 (cancelled).